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Docket No.: OMY-0034
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masatoshi Shiraishi et al.

Application No.: 10/735,926

Confirmation No.: 4251

Filed: December 16, 2003

Art Unit: 1795

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD AND
SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Examiner: D. Chacko Davis

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the restriction requirement made within the Office Action dated June 16, 2008, Applicant, through its representative and attorney, hereby provisionally elect, without traverse, the invention of Group IV, including claims 31-34. Reexamination in light of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Applicants also reserve the right to rejoin any applicable claims. Please note that, by the following Preliminary Amendment, claim 35 of Group I has been amended to include limitations of claim 31 so that claims 35-38 will be rejoined when claim 31 is allowed.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.